



# MILFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## ~ 2004 TOWN REPORT ~

Again, as in previous years, the Milford Police Department served the citizens of Milford with one goal: to serve and protect while maintaining a high professional standard and a continued partnership with our community.

Personnel: In April of this year two of our officers from the Patrol Division left our agency to seek employment in the private sector. We also lost another officer from the Detective's Division to another state agency in October. On a positive note, Officer Craig Frye applied to return to full-time to the Department from the private sector. In October Officer Craig Frye was hired full-time and we all were very pleased with his return to his "second family".

In November, Crossing Guard Celia Waterman resigned from our agency taking up residency in North Carolina with her husband in their new home. We will all miss her and wish the both of them the very best.

Our hiring process to fill the open Patrol Division positions continued through the year. Our agency maintains a high standard for employment. As a result of this high standard, coupled with the Iraq war, we have found that our applicants in most cases do not fit our criteria. This situation is the same throughout the state and law enforcement profession.

Administration / Clerical: The make-up of support personnel in this area is comprised of two full-time clerical people, one thirty hour per week clerical person who is dedicated to prosecution and five part-time personnel to cover weekend and all holiday hours. The part-time clerical position is an area that we must review in the future because of coverage issues that seem to continue. The main reason for this issue points to people not wanting to be hired to dedicate themselves to the hours on weekends and holidays.

In October, after moving back into the area, Mary Dickson rejoined our staff in a part-time capacity. Our current staff is very dedicated to the "mission" of our agency and is second to none in the area.

Patrol Division: In reading this report, you as citizens will note that the Patrol Division was extremely busy this year. The "Patrol Division" has always been thought of and known as the "back-bone" of the Milford Police Department. A new format for the statistics of the calls for service has been implemented. Please find the previous years statistics and percentages included for your review, as compared to this year.

In general, criminal arrests were up by 17%. Drug violations were up by 35%; Fraud cases were up by 15%; Stolen Vehicles were up by 46%; while the number of sexual assaults were the same as in year 2003 with 29 crimes being investigated.

In August, Officer Sean Plumer was presented with a Life Saving Award and Commendation, for removing a suicidal subject from a burning building. Officer Michael

Dowd was presented a Meritorious Award and Commendation for searching a burning building for occupants during this same incident.

**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE/OFFICER ACTIVITY: 33,191**

	<b><u>2003</u></b>	<b><u>2004</u></b>	<b><u>% Difference</u></b>
<b><i>Criminal</i></b>			
Arson	4	7	75.00%
Arrests	370	436	17.84%
Assaults	148	126	-14.86%
Burglary	29	24	-17.24%
Disorderly Conduct	96	76	-20.83%
Drug Violations	87	118	35.63%
Domestic Violence	120	125	4.17%
Forgery	22	19	-13.64%
Fraud	118	136	15.25%
Homicide	1	0	-100.00%
Kidnapping	4	2	-50.00%
Robbery	4	3	-25.00%
Thefts (All)	177	218	23.16%
Sexual Assaults	29	29	0.00%
Stolen Vehicles	15	22	46.67%
Vandalism	250	272	8.80%
Weapons Violations	9	5	-44.44%
<b><i>Non-Criminal</i></b>			
Animal Complaints	229	238	3.93%
Accident (reportable)	322	324	0.62%
Alarm	374	440	17.65%
Citizen Assists	84	243	189.29%
Directed/Radar Patrols	2,794	2,931	4.90%
Escorts/Civil Standby	500	541	8.20%
Fire Assists	106	113	6.60%
Medical Assists	187	178	-4.81%
Missing Persons	23	20	-13.04%
Mutual Aid	84	64	-23.81%
Runaway Juveniles	27	22	-18.52%
Suicide/Attempted Suicide	12	16	33.33%
Business Checks	13,598	17,298	27.21%
Miscellaneous	4,333	5,133	18.46%
<b><i>Motor Vehicle Statistics</i></b>			
Summons	641	478	-25.43%
Warnings	3,012	3,130	3.92%
Fatal Accidents	1	2	100.00%
Parking Tickets	248	402	62.10%

**Detective Division:** As indicated in prior reports, this Division is a support role to the Patrol Division. It should be noted that the Detectives also took calls for service in order to assist the Patrol Division throughout the year. Sex crimes continue to absorb the majority of this Division's investigative time, as they are the largest of Felony level investigations.

Several significant major criminal investigations were undertaken this year. They were the kidnapping and rape of a young woman on New Year's Eve 2003; the attempted kidnapping of another young woman near the High School the following week; a very large Child Pornography case; and the Garden Street School arson. Guilty convictions were secured in the kidnapping and rape case and the Child Pornography cases as a result of professional and dedicated investigations by all employees involved.

**TOTAL INVESTIGATIONS: 275**

Murders(Assist other agency)	1	Pre-Employment Investigations	8
Robbery	1	Sex Offenders (registration req.)	19
Kidnapping	1	Sexual Assault	27
Untimely/Unattended Deaths	5	Burglary	8
Arson	3	Theft/Fraud	24
Assault (all)	4	Missing Persons	5
Forgery	5	Criminal Mischief	4
Drug Cases	6	Domestic Cases	2
Witness Tampering	1	Child Custody/Abuse	3
Fugitive From Justice	0	Child Pornography	4
Juvenile Cases	7	Prostitution	1
Indecent Exposure	2	Other Cases	23
Backgrounds(other agencies)	99		
		Arrests	12

Prosecution Division: The increase of arrests by the Patrol Division (17% higher) has a direct impact on the Prosecutor of this agency and the clerical support. The total number of juvenile petitions filed by our agency increased by 9%. The Milford Police Department accounted for 44% of the total petitions filed with the Milford District Court.

**PROSECUTION TRIALS/APPEARANCE TOTALS: 1,193**

Arraignments (1,878 charges filed)	491	O/T Hours	594
Trials/PC Hearings/Misc. Hearings	619	O/T Paid Out	\$18,145
Juvenile Case Hearings	83		
		<b>Total Events</b>	<b>1193</b>
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>434</b>		

In addition to the regular caseload, the Prosecutor handled the following cases:

Assault	1	Criminal Threatening	2
Paperwork Service	70	Obstructing Report of Crime	1
Child Abuse	2	Sexual Assault	1
Harassment	1	Violation Protective Order	7
Indecent Exposure	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>
Arrests/Assist	7		

K-9 Unit: This specialized unit continues to be a valuable asset to our agency and community. Officer Dean Hardwick and K-9 Zed were certified in drug detection and have proved to be a deterrent to the criminal element in our community. They both continue to train each month.

In August, Officer Hardwick and K-9 Zed were presented a Life Saving Award and Commendation for their quick responsiveness to aid Brookline Police in a search for a

suicidal female who had injured herself and fled into a wooded area. Officer Hardwick and K-9 Zed promptly located the unconscious female, after which she was transported to a local hospital and survived her injuries.

**DEPLOYMENT/TRAINING TOTALS:**

Building Searches (Alarms/Open Doors)	56
Field Searches (Criminal Suspects/Fugitives /Missing Persons)	8
Security/ Search Warrant Assists	14
Public Demonstrations	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>

***Total Training Hours***

**96**

School Resource Officer: This School Resource Officer position continues to play an important role. The School Resource Officer handled a large amount of cases, which assisted the Patrol Division. The SRO Officer now assumes the task of fingerprinting all employees within the school district who are required to be fingerprinted, which allows the Patrol Division to remain focused on their patrol duties throughout the day.

**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER STATISTICS: 309**

Assault	9	Sexual Assault (all)	2
Child Abuse	2	Indecent Exposure	3
Arson	1	Illegal Drugs	8
Safe School Zone Violation	9	Criminal Mischief	14
Theft/Fraud	13	Reckless Conduct	1
Alcohol (minors)	0	False Public Alarms	2
Disorderly Conduct	24	Harassment	4
Tobacco (minors)	5	Criminal Threatening	4
Criminal Trespass	8	False Fire Alarm	0
Runaway	1	Burglary	5
Bomb Threat	3	Alarms	6
Weapons/Explosives Violation	2	Accidents/Conduct After	7
Domestic Cases	6	Fireworks	1
Mutual Aid	2	Medical Assist	4
Town Ordinances	3	Property Cases	2
Fingerprinting	101	Resisting Arrest	1
Other	45	Arrests/Assist	16

Fleet: Our fleet maintenance budget for this year was expensive mostly due to maintaining vehicles that have high mileages on them. In addition to our cruiser fleet, this past year we have added a Police Motorcycle, which was acquired in part through a Federal grant. We started utilizing this unit on patrol and it has been a very effective tool in traffic enforcement, which has been a constant problem in many areas of town. Our agency has invested in the training of Officer Kevin Furlong as a Police Motorcycle Instructor who attended Northwestern University Motorcycle Instructor School for a three-week period and will instruct other officers assigned to this unit. Citizens should see this Police Motorcycle and Patrol Officers out on a regular basis starting the spring and summer of 2005.

Closing Remarks: As this year came to a close my attention was drawn back to all the accomplishments made by the employees, both civilian and sworn officers. They have made many sacrifices throughout the year, such as being away from their families during special times (holidays, birthdays of their loved ones) while conducting long hours of work and late shifts that others never have to do.

Yes, it is said by some that we elected to get into this profession, so it “goes with the turf”. As Chief of Police I want to thank each and every employee for your unselfish dedication to your profession; a big thank you for protecting your “turf”, the citizens of Milford and the community as a whole.

Thank you for giving all of us the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick G. Douglas Jr., Chief of Police